

AL-VI-D-300

Franklin Survey District
Franklin
Private

1850's

Franklin Survey District is located approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Westernport in the southwestern corner of Allegany County, Maryland. The architecture of Franklin is characterized by single family and duplex vernacular-styled dwellings. These frame buildings are typically $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 stories tall and 2 to 4 bays wide.

Franklin is a typical company town in the southern end of the Georges Creek coal region. Like many other company towns of the region Franklin was established in the 1850's after the transportation system carrying Georges Creek coal to the eastern seaboard was established.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

AL-VI-D-300
MAGI #0112774538
SD

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Franklin Survey District

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 936, 1/2 mile north of Westernport

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegheny County

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple ownership

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegheny County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland 21502

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

AL-VI-C-197, AL-VI-D-202 and AL-VI-D-203

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-VI-D-300

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Franklin Survey District is located approximately one-half of a mile north of Westernport in the southwestern coner of Allegany County, MD. All but 4 of the 45 buildings within the survey district are located on the northeastern side of Maryland Route 936 which runs NW to SE through the town. The C & P Railroad and Georges Creek parallel Rt. 936 on the south-side of the highway. The terrain of the survey district is flat.

The architecture of Franklin is characterized by single family and duplex vernacular-styled dwellings. These frame buildings are typically 1½ or 2 stories tall and 2 to 4 bays wide. They rest on stone foundations and have gabled roofs. Many have shed-roofed porches abutting the rear elevation which give these buildings a saltbox shape common to the mining region (an example is AL-VI-C-197, #43 on the attached map).

Two examples of Italianate architecture found in Franklin exhibit the flat facade, shed roof, and bracketed projecting cornice typical of the style. (An example is AL-VI-D-202, #17 on the attached map).

The single example of the Bungalow style in Franklin is a typically 1½ story structure with simple bracketing and a gently sloping gable roof with a gabled dormer. (#42 on the attached map).

A typical early 20th century industrial/commercial structure, the Welsh Petroleum Products building, is located near the SE end of the survey district. The one story frame building is clad with corrugated metal (#4 on the attached map).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Franklin is a typical company town in the southern end of the Georges Creek coal region. Like many other company towns of the region Franklin was established in the 1850's after the transportation system carrying Georges Creek coal to the eastern seaboard was established. A major component of this system, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, neared its completion in 1850, the Franklin Coal Company announced plans to house the miners needed for mining operations.

The company's building plans were probably delayed until 1853, when the Georges Creek Coal and Iron Company's railroad from Lonaconing to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Piedmont, WV was completed. Once this vital rail link was in place many mines in the southern end of the region, including the Franklin Mine, were opened.² The town of Franklin was built between 1852 and 1857 and was "settled mostly by foreigners"³ In 1877 the Franklin Coal Company employed 150 men.⁴

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harvey, Katherine. The Best Dressed Miners, Life and Labor in the Maryland Coal Region, 1835-1910, Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1969.

Thomas and Williams. History of Allegany County, Maryland. Regional Publishing Company: Baltimore, 1969 (originally published 1923).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

April 1982

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle, Shaw House

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Franklin Survey District

Footnotes

1

Katherine Harvey, The Best-Dressed Miners, Life and Labor in The Maryland Coal Region, 1835-1910. Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1969, p. 78.

2

Thomas and Williams, History of Allegany County, Maryland, Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1969, p. 539.

3

Ibid

4

Katherine Harvey, p. 198.



Westernport: MD; WV
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale 1:24,000
1950; photorevised 1974

AL-VI-D-300
Franklin Survey District
Route 936, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N of
Westernport



AL-VI-D-300
Franklin Survey District
Allegany Co. David A. Dorsey
10/81
Looking NE (photo #1)



AL-VI-D-300
Franklin Survey District
Allegany Co. 10/81
Looking East (photo #2)



AL-VI-D-300
Franklin Survey District
Allegany Co. 10/81
Looking N (Photo #3)



AL-VI-D-300

Franklin Survey District

Allegany Co. 10/81

Looking SE (photo #4)